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REMARKS

Claims 1-14, 27-37 are in the application. Claims 1-14, and 36 are canceled by the present response. Claims 27-35 and 37 are pending in the application. In light of cancellation of claims 1-14, the rejection of the claims 1-14 under U.S.C. 103(a) are now moot. Claims 27-35 and 37 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer (USP 6,189,237) in view of Anderson (USP 6,207,020). Independent claim 27 is amended to overcome the rejection under U.S.C. 103(a). The amended claim 27 is now define a patentable subject matter. The remaining dependent claims 28-35 and 37 all of which depend directly or indirectly from amended independent claim 27 and therefore also define patentable subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application

1. Claim Rejections Based on 35 USC § 103

Claim 27-35 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Mayer (USP 6,189,237) in view of Anderson (6,207,020). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 27 recites "an entry jet box configured to direct a high velocity cooling gas over the porous paper web in a direction opposite to a direction in which the porous paper web moves". As described throughout the specification, particularly pages 9, 10, 11, 12, and Figures 1 & 2, there are two physical elements such as air deflector 82 (air foil) in Figure 1 and the entry jet box 90 in Figure 2 to partially remove the undesirable boundary layer. Prior to cooling the moving web 14, at least a portion of a boundary layer of warm or hot gases and vapors moving with the web is stripped away

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from the second surface 19 of the web 14 via the air deflector 82 (air foil). As described in page 10 paragraphs 2 & 3, the entry jet box is also used to remove the undesirable boundary layer. The entry jet box 90 applies a jet of pressurized gas from a plenum 91 onto web 14 substantially tangential to the second surface 19 of the web 14 and substantially opposite the direction of web travel direction D. The pressurized gas flows from plenum 91 out of an elongate gas jet slot 92 at a high velocity. By directing pressurized gas in this manner and in close proximity to the second web surface 19 at high velocity, the boundary layer associated with the second web surface 19 is further disrupted and/or stripped therefrom prior to the web 14 coming under the influence of cooling gas from nozzles 72 of chamber 60. Cooled gas enters plenum 91 via conduit 95 from a suitable source shown at 96 (emphasis added).

Neither Mayer (USP 6,189,237) nor Anderson (6,207,020), or in combination, describes or teaches a means such as an entry jet box for stripping away a portion of the boundary layer adjacent the second surface of the web as disclosed and recited in amended claim 27 of the present invention. In fact, Mayer (USP 6,189,237) teaches away from the present invention in that the guide element 3 is taught to create a boundary layer, rather than strip one away (Col. 5, Lines 33-36). Therefore, Neither Mayer (USP 6,189,237) nor Anderson (6,207,020) or in combination, provide apparent basis for concluding that a person of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to modify the apparatus and method described therein so as to arrive at the claimed invention with a reasonable expectation of success in achieving the advantages of the claimed invention as recited in amended independent claim 27, and the depended claims 28-35 and 37, and

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fully described throughout the specification. Therefore, this rejection is in error and should be withdrawn.

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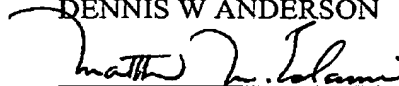
CONCLUSION

Independent claim 27 is amended to overcome rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Mayer (USP 6,189,237) in view of Anderson (6,207,020). Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 27 define patentable subject matter. The remaining dependent claims 28-35 and 37 all of which depend directly or indirectly from amended independent claims 27 also define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC § 103.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the application is believed to be in condition for the allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions and the attending to of which would expedite such action, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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